has been already merged with erstwhile Trade Fair Authority of India with effect from 1st January, 1992 under the name of India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO).

Simplifying procedures to promote Export

1927. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have simplified the procedures to promote export of items ;

(b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Review & simplification of the procedures relating to imports and exports is a continuous process and changes are made as and when considered necessary in public interest.

Action Plan for Boosting Exports in View of Dunkel Proposals

1928. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what 'action plan' has been drawn for boosting agricultural exports in view of the Dunkel Proposals ;

(b) if not, whether Government is contemplating some action plan to boost agriculture exports ;

(c) whether the State Governments will be taken into confidence while formulating this plan ; and

(d) the reasons for banning exports of many agriculture produce in this area of export promotion and liberalisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) GATT Agreement on Agriculture is beneficial to India as it will provide increased market access to our agricultural commodities in other parts of the world.

Government attaches great importance to the export of agricultural commodities and has, therefore, been giving a special thrust in this area. It is however, the policy of the Government to allow export of items of mass consumption only in a manner which does not compromise our food security system. With this objective in view, Government prescribes, Minimum Export Price (MEP) and/or quantative ceilings in respect of wheat, coarse grains, sugar, mustard seed and rapeseed.

While finalising the Agriculture Policy Resolution, the Ministry of Agriculture has consulted the State Governments. This Resolution also recognises the potential and importance of export of agricultural commodities.

आयात तथा निर्यात में संतुलन

1929. **डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**

श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 8 फरवरी, 1994 के "फाइनेंशियल एक्सप्रेस" में "इंडिया इन दि वर्ल्ड ऑफ ट्रेड" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश के निर्यात तथा आयात में कोई संतुलन नहीं है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश का आयात निर्यात से अधिक है;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या सरकार इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंची है कि देश में आयात केवल निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिये ही नहीं किया जा रहा है बल्कि यह देश में उपभोग के लिए भी हो रहा है;

(च) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(छ) क्या सरकार निकट भविष्य में आयात का उपयोग निर्यात बढ़ाने तक ही सीमित रखने पर विचार करेगी; और

(ज) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रवण मुखर्जी) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) निर्यात एवं आयात भिन्न-भिन्न कारकों द्वारा निर्धारित होता है और बिल्कुल सही संतुलन केवल संयोग की बात हो सकती है।

(ग) और (घ) हांलाकि आमतौर पर हमारा वार्षिक आयात निर्यात से अधिक रहता है, 1972-73 तथा 1976-77 के वर्षों में निर्यात आयात से अधिक था।

(ङ) से (ज) हमारा अधिकांश आयात न केवल निर्यात उत्पादन के लिए आवश्यक निविष्टियों के रूप में होता है बल्कि घरेलू खपत की वस्तुओं के उत्पादन के लिए भी निविष्टियों के रूप में होता है। कुछ आयात घरेलू आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए भी किया जाता है और इसलिए सरकार की नीति यह नहीं है कि आयात की अनुमति केवल निर्यात उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए ही सीमित रखी जाए।

Projections for Exports

1930. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the projections for exports during the begining of next year ;

(b) what additional steps will be taken to boost our exports ;

(c) whether the positive trend will continue for a few year ; and

(d) what are the likely obstacles which Government envisages in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Export targets for the next year (1994-95) have not been fixed.

(b) and (c) Export Promotion is a continuous process, necessary steps are taken to meet the emerging situation and to boost exports on long-term basis.

(d) The world economic recession and slow growth in World trade are likely constraints in increasing our exports.

1931. [*Transferred to 15th March* 1994.]

Export of Fruit and Vegetables

1932. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India ranks third in the fruit and vegetables production in the world but does not appear anywhere in the list of major food products exporting countries ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) what is the quantity and value of fruit and vegetables exported from India during each of the last three years ; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to encourage the export of food products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) India ranks 2nd in the world in the production of fruits and vegetables. However, India is not a major food products exporting country.

(b) The main reasons are as under :—

(i) Low productivity of fruits and vegetables.

(ii) Lack of information of pre-harvest and post-harvest practices to be followed for export production.

(ii) Non-availability of rapid transporatation system ;